WHAT IS CLAIMS

CLAIMS 1-15 (DELETED)

CLAIM 16. (currently amended) A [compact] mobile vacuum excavation[, and surface cleaning] method comprising the steps of: providing a vacuum container, said vacuum container having a length and width, and having a vacuum producing means to create a vacuum within said vacuum container, providing a conduit to vacuum liquid or solid particles into said vacuum container, and said vacuum container being fixedly mounted on said mobile vacuum excavation means at an inclined slope along said length of said vacuum container and sufficient to allow said solids or liquid to [be empted] dispense from said vacuum container by gravity through an access door to said vacuum container when said access door is opened along said width of said vacuum container, and further providing a liquid storage container, and said liquid storage container being adjacently mounted below said incline slope of said vacuum container and wherein said liquid storage container comprises an additional step of having said liquid storage container side walls add structural support to said vacuum container, and further comprising the steps of: providing a filter housing means having a length and width, and said length of said filter housing being mounted on an incline slope adjacent to said length of said vacuum container, and said vacuum container adding structural support to said filter housing.

CLAIM 17. (currently amended) A mobile [surface cleaning or] vacuum excavating method comprising the steps of: providing a vacuum container, said vacuum container having a length and width, and said vacuum container having a vacuum producing means to create a vacuum within said vacuum container, providing a conduit to vacuum liquid or solid particles into said vacuum container, and said vacuum container being fixedly mounted on said mobile vacuum excavation means at an inclined slope along said length of said vacuum container sufficient to allow said solids or [and] liquid to [empty] dispense from said vacuum container by gravity through an access door along said width of [to] said vacuum container when said access door is opened, and further providing a liquid storage container,

and said liquid storage container being adjacently mounted below said incline slope of said vacuum container and wherein said liquid storage container comprises an additional step of having said liquid storage container side walls add structural support to said vacuum container, and further comprising the steps of: providing a filter housing means having a length and width to house air filters, said length of said filter housing being mounted on an incline slope adjacent to said length of said vacuum container, and said vacuum container adding structural support to said filter housing, and said width of said filter housing being mounted adjacent to said width of said vacuum container so as to allow a single door access to both said filter housing and said vacuum container, and said filter housing having a connecting conduit to flow air from said vacuum container to said filter housing and said filter housing having filters disposed within it to remove solids from said air.

CLAIM 18.(currently amended) [A mobile vacuum method of vacuum excavation, and surface cleaning] A mobile vacuum excavation method comprising the steps of: providing a vacuum container having a length and width and, a filter housing, and a liquid storage container, said vacuum container comprising a vacuum producing means to create a vacuum within said vacuum container, and further comprising a conduit to vacuum solid particles or liquid into said vacuum container, and said vacuum container being fixedly mounted on said mobile vacuum excavation means at an inclined slope along said length of said container [and] sufficient to allow said solids or [and] said liquid to be dispensed [empted] from said vacuum container by gravity through an access door of said vacuum container when said access door is opened along said width of said vacuum container, and further comprising the step of said liquid storage container being adjacently mounted below said incline slope of said vacuum container and further comprising the step of said filter housing being mounted on an incline slope adjacent to said vacuum container, and further comprising an articulated boom arm mounted on said mobile vacuum excavation means and said articulated boom arm having one or more arms. [mounted at an incline slope adjacent to said vacuum tank.]

CLAIM 19 (currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim 18 [16], wherein said articulated boom arm comprise an additional step of mounting or supporting one or more conduits adjacent to said boom arm, and said conduits being chosen from a list consisting of a vacuum conduit, a water conduit, a hydraulic conduit,

or an air conduit. [liquid storage container comprises an additional step of having said storage container side walls add structurally support to said vacuum container.]

CLAIM 20. (currently amended) A mobile vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning method] means according to claim16, wherein said [water] liquid storage container [vacuum container and said water storage container] further comprises the [steps of mounting a vacuum blower, an air filter, and an engine adjacent to said vacuum container.] step of having a liquid stored within said liquid storage container, and further comprising the step of a liquid pump means, a liquid conduit means and a nozzle means being mounted to said mobile vacuum excavation means, and further comprising the step of said liquid being pressurized by said liquid pump, flowed through said liquid conduit and nozzle means to impinge an earthen material in order to improve the vacuum ability of said earthen material.

CLAIM 21(currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim16, [17 or 18,] wherein said vacuum container and [water] said liquid storage container comprise an additional step of mounting auxiliary equipment adjacent to said vacuum container, or [and water] said liquid storage container, and said auxiliary equipment[is] being chosen from a list consisting of one or more of: a vacuum blower exhaust muffler, a vacuum pump, a power plant, a hydraulic reservoir, a hydraulic pump, a vacuum pump, an air filter, a water pump, a boom arm, a trailer, an engine, a hose reel, a jetter, a hydraulic connection for hydraulic tools, a hydraulic tool, an air compressor, a generator, a process controller, a surface cleaning tool, a jack hammer, a concrete saw, a solids liquid separator, a water filter, a water heater, a water purifier, a water sterilizer, a vibrating screen, a liquid recycling system, a hydrocarbon absorption system, a solids dispensing system, an air conveyor, a screw conveyor, a cyclone, a liquid dispensing system, a vibrator, an excavation bucket, a torque wrench, a hydro-cyclone, a noise muffler, a goose neck trailer coupler, a skid steer, a zero turn radius vehicle, a rail road car, a fork lift, a truck, a back hoe, a track loader, a barge, a powered linear actuator or telescoping cylinder to open or close an access door to said vacuum container, a skid mounting base, and a fuel reservoir.

CLAIM 22. (canceled)

CLAIM 23.(currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim 17 [16 or 18] wherein said vacuum container access door is opened and closed by a telescoping means disposed within said vacuum container, and said telescoping means being chosen from one or more devices selected from a group consisting of: a hydraulic cylinder, an air cylinder and a linear actuator.

CLAIM 24.(currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim16 [, 17 or18,] wherein said vacuum container comprises an additional step of providing a vibrating screen disposed within said vacuum container to separate liquids from solids.

CLAIM 25.(currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim 16 [, 17 or 18,] wherein said vacuum container comprises an additional step of providing a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container, and said dispensing means being chose from a group consisting of a pump, a grinder, and a progressive cavity screw.

CLAIM 26.(canceled)

CLAIM 27.(canceled)

CLAIM 28. (canceled)

CLAIM 29. (currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim16, or17 [or 18], wherein said vacuum container, and [water] said liquid storage container or filter housing comprise an additional step of mounting an articulated boom arm adjacent to said vacuum container, [and water] liquid storage container or filter housing, and said articulated boom arm having one or more boom arms, and one or more elbows and said articulated boom arm comprises an additional step of having auxiliary equipment mounted adjacent to said boom arm and said auxiliary equipment being chosen from a group consisting of: a linear actuator, a hydraulic cylinder, a remotely controlled operating system, a control system, a control system monitor, a jetter, a sand blaster, a telescoping boom arm, a telescoping vacuum conduit, a powered rotating knuckle, a sand blasting tool, a vibrator, a concrete saw, a jack hammer, a vacuum hose with vacuum hose end attachments, a water pressure hose with spray nozzle attachments, an air hose with air

tool attachments, an electric cord with attachments for electric power tools, hydraulic hoses with hydraulic tool attachments, an excavation bucket, a surface cleaner, a grinder, a pump, a torque wrench, a sensor to detect buried utilities, and a man hole cover removal tool.

CLAIM 30. (canceled)

CLAIM 31.(canceled)

CLAIM 32.(canceled)

CLAIM 33.(currently amended) A vacuum excavation [, and surface cleaning] method according to claim 16 or 18 wherein said vacuum container comprises an additional step of providing a vibrating screen disposed within said vacuum container to separate liquid from solids and said vacuum container further comprises an additional step of providing a means to dispense a liquid from said vacuum container without eliminating the vacuum environment within said vacuum container, and said dispensing means being chose from a group consisting of a pump, a grinder, or [and] a progressive cavity screw and further comprising a means to recycle said liquid to a surface cleaning means having one or more means [devices] selected from the group consisting of: a liquid pressure spray nozzle, a means to direct said [nozzle] liquid to impinge said surface to be cleaned with said liquid, a housing to contain said liquid spray, a vacuum conduit attachment to said housing, or a vacuum conduit to vacuum said sprayed liquid from said surface, and said vacuum conduit being used to convey said surface cleaning liquid to said vacuum container.

CLAIM 34.(canceled)

CLAIM 35.(canceled)

CLAIM 36 (canceled)